(b) if so, what has been the achievement in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Activities undertaken in Andhra Pradesh under the Wind Energy Programme comprise wind surveys, wind power and wind pumping demonstration projects. Fifty wind mapping stations and mine wind monitoring stations have been established for collection of wind data; six more wind monitoring stations are under installation.

A 550 KW wind farm project was established at Tirumala in July, 1989 and over 11 lakh units of electricity have so far been fed to the State grid from this project. The capacity of this project is being increased by another 500 KW. A 2 MW wind farm project has recently been taken up for installation at Ramagiri in Ananthapur district. In addition, 377 shallow well and 10 deep well water pumping windmills were installed in the State.

World Bank warns NTPC to improve collection of its dues

175. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank had warned that it would not consider any request from the NTPC for new financing and in fact on going loan arrangements might face 'repercussions', unless the NTPC improves its record of dues collection from its customers, as per the newsitem entitled "Improve recovery or face repercussions, World Bank warns NTPC" which appeared in the *Times of india*, dated the 26th December, 1991;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the NTPC's bill collection, which averaged 77 per cent from June 1990 to June 1991 has deteriorated despite continuing efforts by the NTPC;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir. the World Bank Mission which visited NTPC in November, 1991, have mentioned in the Aide Memoire prepared at the end of their visit that unless situation relating to NTPC's accounts receivable is satisfactorily resolved, the Bank would not be able to consider new financing and if prolonged, it might have repercussions for on-going loans to NTPC.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Billing collection which averaged 77% from June, 1990 to June 1991 has gone to 74.2% from July, 1991 to January, 1992.

(d) The steps taken for recovery of dues include frequent visits to State Electricity Boards and State Governments by Senior Executives of the NTPC, organising meetings, recovery through Central Appropriation etc.

Functioning of SEBs on commercial lines

176. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed the State Electricity Boards to function on commercial lines and charge the tariff for the supply of electricity to the consumers based on cost of power generation;

(b) whether Government have received any report that the State Governments have implemented the advice given by the Central Government on power tariffs in various States; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for not implementing these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) The State Governments have been urged, from time to time, to take various steps including revision of tariff for all sectors of consumers and manage the operations of the Electricity Boards in such a manner as would yield the statutory minimum surplus of 3%. Most of the State Electricity Boards have revised their tariffs during the last one year and are taking other steps necessary in this regard.